

Corn Down? Here's Where To Get Help

Add-on corn reels and snout augers are designed to bring "down" stalks in to combine headers. Some manufacturers say they're also useful in extremely dry standing crops that might otherwise plug up in the header.

Here's a summary of what's on the market.

Roll-A-Cone

These "Corn Lifters" consist of cones that mount on each snout. They can be hydraulically or mechanically driven (a sprocket mounted on the end of the header's cross auger chain-drives the cones). The outside cones divide the outer rows while all the other



cones lift the crop up and into the cross auger. The company says the simple and lightweight units won't interfere with normal operation. They sell for about \$400 per row.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roll-A-Cone, Rt. 2, Box 25, Tulia, Texas 79088 (ph 806 668-4722).

Corn Saver

Corn Saver units bolt onto the corn header without any major alterations. Chains, supported by an adjustable boom over each of the inner snouts of the corn head, have lugs to drag the fallen stalks over the snouts and



into the feeder auger. Mechanical or hydraulic drive models are available in 2-row to 12-row sizes to fit most makes, models, and sizes of corn heads.

A 6-row model sells for \$4,395.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Corn Saver, 5200 N. Columbia, Plainview, Texas 79072 (ph 800 536-1022 or 806 293-1010; fax 806 293-7722; Email: hamby@texasonline.net).

Heritage Machine

The "Corn Comb" uses long curved, offset fingers to bring down stalks into the header and at the same time miss standing corn.



There are two fingers per row, and each row is offset to create an auger effect across the head. "Our machine is 100 percent guaranteed - if you don't like it we'll return your

money in full," says Tom Wherry.

Available in 4, 6, 8, and 12-row models. A 8-row model sells for \$1,295.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Heritage Machine & Welding, 1001 W. Locust, Bloomington, Ill. 61701 (ph 800 274-0440 or 309 828-0400; fax 309 828-2724).

Kelderman

This fully adjustable corn reel is equipped with specially contoured spokes that are self-cleaning and don't interfere with standing corn. The reel is hydraulically driven which



allows it to be operated at variable speeds. It takes only about five minutes to remove the reel from the head. Fits Deere, Case-IH, Gleaner, and Cat combines and is available in 4, 6, 8, and 12-row models. All units come with hydraulic motor and hoses. An optional variable speed valve and hydraulic motors are available for combines not equipped with a variable reel speed control valve.

A 4-row wide model sells for \$1,685 while a 12-row narrow model sells for \$3,299.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kelderman Mfg., Inc., 2686 Hwy. 92, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577 (ph 641 673-0468; fax 641 673-4168; Website: www.keldermanmfg.com).

Hitchcock

The company's hydraulic-driven "Crop Reel" was introduced two years ago. It's equipped with bolt-on arms and poly paddles for each row. A single mounting clamp fits Deere, Cat-



erpillar, New Holland, and Case-IH corn and row crop headers. According to the company, the unit can be adapted to all row crops - corn, sunflowers, sorghum, etc.

Models are available in 6, 8, and 12-row widths. Prices range from \$3,000 for a 6-row model to \$4,500 for a 12-row model.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hitchcock, Inc., 49994 E. Highway 24, Burlington, Colo. 80807 (ph 800 771-8488 or 719 346-8488; fax 719 346-5218).



Lofquist

Lofquist's hydraulic-driven "Corn Head Paddle Feeder" uses steel paddles to feed down corn or sunflowers into the header. The all-steel unit comes with easy-mount brackets. "It's built heavy duty and requires very little maintenance," says Jim Rhinehart. "Most farmers who use them never take them off, because even in good corn they help feed the crop in better. The paddles are especially helpful in dry, fluffy corn." Models are available to fit 4, 6, 8, 12, and 16-row headers.

Prices range from \$2,750 for a 4-row model to \$6,000 for a 16-row model.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lofquist Welding, 202 Ontario Ave., Box 365, Elwood, Neb. 68937 (ph 308 785-2755).

Minden Machine Shop

This hydraulic-driven Corn Reel is equipped with slightly curved steel arms that are adjustable forward and back, as well as side to



side to adjust to varying conditions. The arms bolt in place which allows the unit to be quickly removed. Arms and bearings have set screw adjustment on a square center tube which stops slippage.

Sells for \$1,150 for a 4-row model to \$2,199 for a 12-row model.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Minden Machine Shop, Inc., 1302 K Road, Minden, Neb. (ph 800 264-6587; E-mail: mmsi@nebi.com; Website: mindenmachine.com).

Vande Weerd

A prototype model of Vande Weerd's new prototype model was on display at Farm Fest held near Redwood Falls, Minn. A hydraulic-driven auger mounts at each end of the



header. The Polytin spiral fender was tested in Kentucky late last year and in some spring

corn this year. The company hopes to have the unit available for harvest this fall on a limited test basis. The unit will be first offered for Deere headers.

The company also markets a variety of other corn reels.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vande Weerd Combine, Inc., 2553 320 St., Rock Valley, Iowa 51247 (ph 800 831-4814 or 712 476-2286; Email: combine@heartlandtel.com; Website: www.combineparts.com).

Columbus Industries

Hydraulic-driven unit attaches to header and uses fingers or batts mounted on steel arms to feed the crop into gathering chains. "The



batts are built heavy so they won't bend," says David Donaldson. "It uses pillow block bearings for longer life."

The unit is equipped with a motor that operates off combine hydraulics. Fits 4 to 12-row headers. Sells for \$1,600 to \$2,600 depending on row width.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Columbus Industries, Inc., 17383 E. Ill. Hwy. 116, Fairview, Ill. 61432 (ph 800 290-5905 or 309 245-1010; fax 309 245-4210; E-mail: Daveasan@aol.com).

Meteer Mfg.

Meteer's "Down Corn Reel" is equipped with revolving fingers that feed corn into the head. The reels can be left on at all times and don't need to be removed in standing corn.



The reel is operated by a hydraulic motor and chain drive system.

Available in 3, 4, 6-row narrow and wide, 8-row narrow and wide, and 12-row narrow models. A 3-row reel sells for \$785 while a 12-row narrow model sells for \$1,875. The hydraulic motor isn't included in the basic reel price. A hydraulic motor kit sells for \$435. Extra fingers sell for \$44 apiece.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Meteer Mfg., Rt. 1, Box 221, Athens, Ill. 62613 (ph 217 636-8109; fax 217 636-8309; E-mail: meteer@meteer.com; Website: www.meteer.com).